Past Forward
Tampa Bay
Past Forward Florida
Past Forward Florida is a partnership among the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program (NIE), the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Florida, the American Institute of Architects Tampa Bay and the AIA Tampa Bay Architectural Heritage Committee.

By bringing together the expertise of the educational, media, architectural and historic preservation communities, Past Forward Florida is a unique, quality resource for educators, families, visitors and community members in Tampa Bay and throughout Florida.

Past Forward Florida is a three-part multimedia project celebrating the diverse architecture, history and cultures of Florida with a special focus on the Tampa Bay area.

Florida Architecture: 100 Years. 100 Places.
AIA Florida’s Florida Architecture: 100 Years. 100 Places, commemorates 100 buildings that represent the best that Florida architecture has to offer.

Tour of Tampa Bay Architecture
AIA Tampa Bay’s Tour of Tampa Bay Architecture is an innovative, self-guided multimedia walking tour that uses QR code technology to explore historic and notable architecture in Tampa Bay. Learn more at tourtampabayarchitecture.com

Past Forward Tampa Bay
This educational supplement explores the diverse architecture, history and cultures of Tampa Bay so that teachers, students, visitors and community members can discover the community’s unique history at their own pace.

Events
August 2012
1 – Architectural Photography Contest opens. Top prize $500!

October 2012
Discover Design in Archtober
1 – Architectural Photography Contest entries due
5 – Do the Local Motion architect-led tour, downtown Tampa
5 – Architecture + Film: Unfinished Spaces, Cuban Club
11 – AIGA Film: Design + Thinking, Tampa Theatre
25 – Architectural Photography Contest Awards Reception, Florida Museum of Photographic Arts

November 2012
1 – Celebrate Design Reception, Tampa Museum of Art
TBA – Educator Workshop, Tampa Bay History Museum

December 2012
14 – AIA Florida 100 Years Celebration, Vinoy Renaissance
St. Petersburg

Check tampabay.com/nie and aiatampabay.com for more details.
Past Forward Florida was supported by grants from the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources and the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners.

This project has been financed in part with historic preservation grant assistance provided by the Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State, assisted by the Florida Historical Commission. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Florida Department of State, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Florida Department of State.

About AIA
The American Institute of Architects (AIA) was created in 1857. Through education, government advocacy, community redevelopment and public outreach activities, the AIA works toward a public environment that is responsive to the people it serves while representing the professional interests of America’s architects. Visit aia.org for more information.

AIA Florida was founded in 1912. The AIA Florida mission is to unite, educate and position architects to lead the shaping of Florida’s future. Visit aiafla.org for more information.

AIA Tampa Bay is the local chapter of AIA, representing approximately 600 members in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Polk, Hernando, Citrus, Sumter and Pasco counties. AIA provides programs and services including educational programs, design competitions and community service programs and serves as the united voice of the architecture profession. Visit aiatampabay.com to learn more.

The Architectural Heritage Committee of AIA Tampa Bay seeks to preserve and protect the integrity of the Tampa Bay area’s architectural, historical and cultural heritage, while advancing public interest and education in architecture, the built environment and design in general. The committee assists owners of historic buildings to renovate their buildings within historic guidelines and educates government officials and the public about the importance of historic preservation.

In the know. In the Times.
The Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education (NIE) program is a cooperative effort between schools and the Times to promote the use of newspapers in print and electronic form as educational resources.

Since the mid-1970s, NIE has provided schools with class sets of the Times, plus our award winning original curriculum, at no cost to teachers or schools. With ever-shrinking school budgets, the newspaper has become an invaluable tool to teachers. In the Tampa Bay area, the Times provides more than 5 million free newspapers and electronic licenses for teachers to use in their classrooms every school year.

The Times and our NIE curriculum are rich educational resources, offering teachers an up-to-the-minute, living text and source for countless projects in virtually every content area. For information about requesting NIE materials for your classroom, go to tampabay.com/nie.

For information about how you can donate to NIE, call 800-333-7505, ext. 8138 or visit tampabay.com/nie.

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Newspaper in Education Staff
Jodi Pushkin, manager, jpushkin@tampabay.com
Sue Bedry, development specialist, sbedry@tampabay.com

AIA Tampa Bay Staff
Dawn Mages, executive director, dawn@aiatampabay.com
Jessica Smith Skinner, public relations, jessica@aiatampabay.com

Credits
Written & researched by Jodi Pushkin and Sue Bedry, NIE staff
Designed by Stacy Rector, Times staff

Special thanks to:
Hillsborough County • Hyde Park Preservation • City of Tampa • Tampa Bay History Center • Tampa Preservation, Inc. • Ybor City Museum

This publication and its activities incorporate the following Next Generation Sunshine State Standards Social Studies: SS.6.G.1.2; SS.6.E.1.1; SS.6.E.1.3; SS.6.W.1.1; SS.6.W.1.3; SS.7.G.2.3; SS.8.A.1.2; SS.8.A.1.3; SS.8.A.1.8; SS.8.A.3.16 Language Arts: LA.6.1.5.1; LA.6.1.6.1-10; LA.6.1.7.1-8; LA.6.2.2.4-1-4; LA.6.3.1.1-3; LA.6.3.2.1-3; LA.6.3.3.1-4; LA.6.4.1.1-5; LA.6.4.2.1-3; LA.6.5.1.1; LA.6.5.2.1-4; LA.7.1.5.1; LA.7.1.6.1-10; LA.7.1.7.1-8; LA.7.2.2.1-5; LA.7.3.1.1-3; LA.7.3.2.1-3; LA.7.3.3.1-4; LA.7.3.4.1-5; LA.7.4.1.1; LA.7.4.2.1-3; LA.7.5.1.1; LA.7.5.2.1-3; LA.7.6.2.1-4; LA.7.6.4.1-2; LA.8.1.5.1; LA.8.1.6.1-10; LA.8.1.7.1-8; LA.8.2.2.1-4; LA.8.3.1.1-3; LA.8.3.2.1-3; LA.8.3.3.1-4; LA.8.3.4.1-5; LA.8.4.1.1-2; LA.8.4.2.1-3; LA.8.5.1.1; LA.8.5.2.1-5; LA.8.6.2.1-4; LA.8.6.4.1-2

Information regarding how this curriculum fits into Common Core Standards will be available beginning October 1, 2012 on tampabay.com/nie.

Past Forward Tampa Bay

C: 200 – Weedon Island culture emerges along the Gulf Coast of Florida.

C: 900-1500 – Native Americans known as the Tooboga Indians live in small villages at the northern end of Tampa Bay.

European Exploration and Colonization 1513-1562

1528 – Spanish explorer Pánfilo de Narváez lands on the shores of Old Tampa Bay and marches northward through what is now Pasco County.

C: 900-1500 – Native Americans known as the Tooboga Indians live in small villages at the northern end of Tampa Bay.
When people first reached Florida at least 12,000 years ago, there was a rich variety of plants and animals. The animal population included most mammals that we know today. In addition, many other large mammals that are now extinct (such as the saber-tooth tiger, mastodon, giant armadillo, and camel) roamed the state.

The Florida coastline along the Gulf of Mexico was very different than it is today. Since the sea level was much lower, the Florida peninsula was more than twice as large as it is now.

Written records about life in Florida began with the Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de León in 1513. Sometime between April 2 and April 8, Ponce de León waded ashore on the northeast coast of Florida, possibly near present-day St. Augustine. He called the area la Florida, in honor of Pascua florida (“feast of the flowers”).

On another voyage in 1521, Ponce de León landed on the southwestern coast of the peninsula. Although his colonization attempt quickly failed due to attacks by native people, his exploration served to identify Florida as a desirable place for explorers, missionaries and treasure seekers.

And the rest, as we say, is history.

Source: The State of Florida

Architectural style research activity

Florida's architectural history reflects its social, political and industrial history. Florida's unique climate and ecology and its relatively late development (Florida remained “the frontier” until the late 19th century) meant that many architectural movements and styles that dominated in northern parts of the country had little or no influence here. Florida's built environment is as unique, diverse and exciting as the state itself.

Listed are some of the historical styles of architecture common in Tampa Bay. With a partner, research one of these architectural styles. Find as much information as you can, including time period of prominence, attributes of design and examples of buildings.

Write a report on the style and then present the information to your classmates. Be sure to document your sources.

Art Deco
Art Moderne
Beaux Arts
Colonial Revival
Craftsman
Florida Cracker
Mediterranean Revival
Mid-Century Modern
Neoclassical / Classical Revival
Queen Anne
Vernacular

Did you know?

- The name Pinellas is derived from the Spanish words punta pinal meaning “point of pines.” That was an accurate description for this area when it was discovered by Panfilo de Narváez in 1528. Pinellas became an independent county in 1912.

- In January 1843, a bill was introduced in the Florida House to create a new county to be called Amaxura, which was the Spanish name for the Withlacoochee River. The bill was amended, with the name changed to Hernando. On February 1843, Hernando County was created from the southern part of Alachua County and parts of Hillsborough and Mosquito counties.

Sources: Pinellas County; City of St. Petersburg and West Pasco Historical Society

The birth of a state

The United States purchased Florida from Spain in 1821 for $5 million, and Florida became a new United States territory. Florida became the 27th state on March 3, 1845.

Florida’s 19th county

On Jan. 25, 1834, the U.S. Legislative Council for the Territory of Florida approved an act organizing Hillsborough as Florida's 19th county. At that time, Hillsborough County was a sprawling area that included what is now Pinellas, Polk, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee and Highlands counties, most of Glades County and part of Lee County. Despite its size, Hillsborough's population was only 836, not including soldiers or Native Americans. When the first commissioners met in 1846, the topics were taxes, transportation, a new courthouse and jail, and commercial development. The county tax raised $148.69 that year. Commissioners were paid $2 per day while in session.

1539 – Spanish explorer and conquistador Hernando de Soto explores the Tampa Bay area.

First Spanish Period 1565-1763

1565 – Spain establishes its first permanent settlement in Florida. It is St. Augustine.

1639 – Spain establishes a fort in Pensacola.

1757 – Spanish explorer Don Francesco Mariá Celi, pilot of the Spanish Royal Fleet, explores Tampa Bay and Hillsborough Bay.

1763 – Spain cedes Florida to England in exchange for Cuba. The British name the river and bay after Lord Hillsborough, British Secretary of State to the Colonies.

British Florida 1763-1784

1783 – Spain regains possession of Florida.

Second Spanish Period 1784-1821

1818 – First Seminole War.

1821 – Spain sells Florida to the United States.

1821 – The United States purchases Florida from Spain.

1845 – Florida becomes a state.

Sources: Pinellas County; City of St. Petersburg and West Pasco Historical Society
Antebellum Florida, Civil War and Reconstruction

Florida became the 27th state in the United States on March 3, 1845. William D. Moseley was elected the new state’s first governor, and David Levy Yulee and James Westcott became U.S. Senators. By 1850 the population had grown to 87,445.

The slavery issue dominated the affairs of the new state. Florida seceded from the Union on Jan. 10, 1861, thus allowing Florida to join other southern states to form the Confederate States of America.

Before the Civil War, Florida had been well on its way to becoming another of the southern cotton states. Afterward, the lives of many residents changed. Beginning in 1868, the federal government instituted a congressional program of reconstruction in Florida and the other southern states.

Chinsegut Hill Manor House 1847
Frame Vernacular • 22495 Chinsegut Hill Rd, Brooksville • Unknown architect

Chinsegut Hill was settled by Ocala lawyer Bird Murphy Pearson Sr. on land claimed under the federal Armed Occupation Act of 1842. Pearson, a slave owner, named the hill Tiger Tail Hill and his plantation Mount Airy. In 1851, Mount Airy was sold to South Carolina timber baron and merchant Francis H. Edrington, who built the manor house and expanded the plantation.

The Frame Vernacular Chinsegut Hill manor house was built by slaves. This house was built in several phases from 1847 to 1925. In 1905, Raymond Robins and his sister Elizabeth purchased the estate and renamed it Chinsegut Hill. In 1932, the Robinses donated their land to the U.S. government for agricultural research. Chinsegut Hill was one of the first Civilian Conservation Corps locations in Florida.

In 1954, Chinsegut Hill Manor House was leased to the University of Florida for educational use, and in 1958 the property was leased to the University of South Florida. Chinsegut Hill Manor House is now owned by the State of Florida and administered under the Florida Game and Fish Commission.

Chinsegut Hill Manor House is a Florida Heritage site and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2003.
Sources: Hernando Historical Museum Association; Historic Hernando Preservation Society; Friends of Chinsegut Hill; Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources

May-Stringer House 1856
Queen Anne • 601 Museum Ct, Brooksville • Unknown architect

The May-Stringer House is built upon property obtained by Richard Wiggins under the Armed Occupation Act in 1843. In 1855, John May bought the property and began construction of the house. Originally a 2-story, 4-room simple antebellum frame house, successive owners transformed the home into a highly decorative 4-story, 12-room Queen Anne building featuring a 3-bay façade and a 2-story wraparound porch.

The May-Stringer House was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1997 and now houses the May-Stringer Heritage Museum.

Sources: Hernando Historical Museum Association and Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources

1819 – Florida is ceded to the United States by Spain through the Adams-Onis Treaty (also called the Transcontinental Treaty) for $5 million. The treaty was not ratified by the United States until 1821.

Territorial Period 1821-1845
1822 – The Territory of Florida is created by an act of Congress.
1824 – Fort Brooke is established at the mouth of the Hillsborough River.
1826 – Fort King Road connects Fort Brooke to Fort King in Ocala.
1831 – A branch of the U.S. Post Office is established at Tampa Bay.
Baker House 1882
Frame Vernacular • 5744 Moog Rd, Elfers • Unknown architect

The Baker House is the oldest Cracker house in western Pasco County and features typical Florida Cracker traits, such as a wide covered porch, steeply peaked roof, symmetrically placed windows to encourage airflow and a central hallway called a “dogtrot”. The original home of pioneer businessman Samuel Baker, the wood-frame building was assembled with wooden pegs by an unknown shipwright using shipbuilding techniques.

The Baker House was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1997. It has been restored as a museum.

Sources: West Pasco Historical Society and Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources

El Pasaje/Cherokee Club 1888
Brick Vernacular • 1320 E 9th Ave., Tampa
Unknown architect

El Pasaje (“The Passage”) was built between 1886 and 1888 by the founder of Ybor City, Vicente Martinez Ybor. The building, only the 2nd brick building in Ybor City, was originally built to serve as Ybor’s office.

In 1895, the building became the home for the Cherokee Club, an organization of influential Ybor City gentlemen. Many distinguished visitors stayed at the Cherokee Club over the years, including Cuban revolutionary Jose Marti, Winston Churchill (at the time a war correspondent) and Formerly U.S. Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Grover Cleveland. Rumor has it that El Pasaje operated as a speak-easy during Prohibition.

El Pasaje was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

Source: Ybor City Museum

Ybor Square 1886
Eclectic • 1901 N 13th St, Tampa • C.E. Purcell, architect

The building now known as Ybor Square was the very first brick structure constructed in Ybor City. Ybor Square was built in 1886 by Ybor City’s founder, Vicente Martinez Ybor, to serve as his primary factory building.

Ybor moved his cigar business to Tampa from Key West, spawning the birth of what would only a few short years later be considered the Cigar Capital of the World – Ybor City. In its heyday, the factory employed over 1,100 cigar makers that turned out tens of thousands of premium El Principe de Gales cigars a day.

Ybor Square was also the site of many political speeches by Jose Marti, the famous Cuban revolutionary referred to as “the George Washington of Cuba.” As early as 1891, Marti visited Ybor City to rally support among Ybor City’s Cuban community for the fight for Cuban independence from Spain.

Ybor Square was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

Sources: Ybor City Museum and the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources

1832 – Odet Philippe establishes the first permanent white settlement on the northern portion of Pinellas peninsula in the Safety Harbor area.
1834 – Hillsborough County is formed. Included within Hillsborough County’s jurisdiction is the Pinellas peninsula, then known as West Hillsborough.
1835-42 – Second Seminole War. Fort Brooke is an important fort for the U.S. Army.
1836 – Construction begins on Fort Dade at the intersection of Fort King Road and the Withlacoochee River, near present-day Lacoochee.
1837 – General Thomas S. Jesup and five Seminole chiefs and representatives sign the capitulation in which the Seminoles agree to emigrate at Fort Dade.
John C. Williams House 1891
Queen Anne
511 Second St S,
St. Petersburg
Unknown architect

The Williams House was built in 1891 by General John Constantine Williams, one of the co-founders of St. Petersburg. Originally located at 444 Fifth Ave S. in St. Petersburg, it is one of the earliest surviving buildings in St. Petersburg. Williams first visited the Pinellas peninsula in 1875. Shortly afterward, he purchased 2,500 acres of land on the southeast portion of the peninsula and began negotiations to bring the Orange Belt Railroad to what would become St. Petersburg in 1888.

The Williams House was purchased by the Manhattan Hotel Company in 1906 and converted to a hotel. The building would remain in use as a hotel for almost 90 years, until it was purchased by the University of South Florida and moved to the Bayboro campus.

The Williams House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975.

Sources: St. Pete Preservation; city of St. Petersburg Historic Preservation and The Garden Restaurant

Belleview-Biltmore Hotel 1896
Eclectic/Shingle • 25 Belleview Blvd, Bellair • Michael J. Miller and Francis J. Kennard, architects

The Belleview-Biltmore Hotel was constructed in 1896 for railroad tycoon Henry B. Plant as a showpiece hotel complete with a private railroad siding for the private cars of wealthy guests. The hotel was fashioned after a Swiss chalet and was constructed out of heart of pine. The Belleview Biltmore is the largest wood-frame building in Florida.

The hotel had its own fire department, police force and post office, and provided telephone and telegraph service on the premises. The hotel retained its private railroad siding until 1942. During World War II, the hotel was closed to tourism and converted into military barracks for 3,000 U.S. Army Air Corps servicemen.

The Belleview-Biltmore was closed in 2009 for planned renovations that, at this time, have not taken place. The Belleview-Biltmore Hotel was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.

Sources: Florida Department of State, Division of Historic Preservation; Belleair, Belleview Biltmore Preservation; St. Pete Preservation and city of St. Petersburg Historic Preservation

Growth of railroads and tourism

During the final quarter of the 19th century, large-scale commercial agriculture and tourism were on the rise in Florida. Industries such as cigar manufacturing took root in the immigrant communities of the state while potential investors became interested in the land. The Florida citrus industry grew rapidly. The growth of Florida’s transportation industry took flight in the 1880s. Many railroads were constructed by companies owned by Henry Flagler and Henry B. Plant, who also built lavish hotels near their railroad lines.

1842 – The federal government’s Armed Occupation Act is signed into law. This act provides the first material impetus to western settlement of the Pinellas peninsula.
1845 – Florida becomes the 27th state.
Statehood 1845-1861

1855 – Tampa is officially incorporated as a city.
Civil War and Reconstruction 1861-1877

1861-65 – Civil War. Florida secedes from the United States on Jan. 10, 1861. In 1864, federal troops occupy Tampa for two days.

Industry and Railroads 1871-1914

1883 – Henry B. Plant purchases the Florida Transit and Peninsula Railroad. The South Florida Railroad connects Tampa to Jacksonville on the east coast.
1885 – The first streetcar line in Tampa begins operation.
World War I era

By the turn of the century, Florida’s population and per capita wealth were increasing rapidly. By the end of World War I, land developers had descended on the Sunshine State in hopes of being part of this virtual gold mine. With more Americans owning automobiles, it became commonplace to vacation in Florida, with many visitors becoming residents. The real estate market boomed. World War I served to stimulate Florida’s economic growth further. Its climate offered excellent year-round opportunities for training in all branches of the armed services. Florida’s ports hosted naval bases, as well as army, air and marine facilities.

Source: Florida Heritage Collection: State University System of Florida

Historic Tampa City Hall 1915

Beaux Arts • 315 E Kennedy Blvd, Tampa
M. Leo Elliott and B. C. Bonfoey, architects

Tampa’s historic City Hall building was built in 1915. The Beaux Arts-style building has a 3-story main block topped with a balustrade and an 8-story central tower with terra-cotta detailing. The 2nd and 3rd floors feature Doric columns. The building is recognized as the finest of architect M. Leo Elliott’s many commercial-municipal structures. When it was built, it was the tallest building south of Jacksonville.

The city of Tampa originally did not provide enough funding for clockworks in the clock tower. The Seth Thomas clock set in the tower was funded through the efforts of Tampa resident Hortense Oppenheimer, daughter of prominent Tampa physician Louis Sims Oppenheimer, who raised enough private money to acquire a 2,840-pound, 4-faced clock from the W.H. Beckwith Jewelry Company.

The Historic Tampa City Hall was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1974 and designated as a local historic landmark in 1994.

Sources: National Register of Historic Places; Florida Department of State, Division of Historic Resources; and city of Tampa Historic Preservation and Urban Design

1885 – Dr. W.C. Van Bibber pronounces Point Pinellas as the perfect location for a “Health City” at the annual convention of the American Medical Association.

1886 – Don Vicente Martinez Ybor relocates his cigar-manufacturing industry from Key West. Ybor City is established and is annexed to Tampa a year later.

1887 – Tarpon Springs becomes the first incorporated city on the Pinellas Peninsula.

1887 – The Plant System Railroad, later called the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, comes to Pasco County. A second railroad arrives in 1888 and later became part of the Seaboard Railroad.

1887 – The Orange Belt Railroad arrives on the Pinellas Peninsula, terminating in St. Petersburg in 1888.

Boone House 1910

Colonial Revival • 601 Fifth Ave N., St. Petersburg • Unknown architect

The Boone House, one of the city’s oldest masonry residences, was built in 1910 by Benjamin T. Boone. Boone, a South Carolinian, moved to St. Petersburg in 1906, where he became a significant real estate developer during the city’s first real estate boom.

The Boone House, constructed in the Colonial Revival style, features a square plan with a center hall, symmetrically balanced windows with a center door, a hip roof with projecting eaves, wood soffits with decorative carved brackets, a double French doorway leading from the 2-floor balcony and a grand entrance portico with four paired ionic columns and patterned tile. The Boone House was restored as private offices in 1985.

The Boone House was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1986 and designated as an historic landmark by the city of St. Petersburg in 1991.

Sources: St. Pete Preservation; city of St. Petersburg Historic Preservation; Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources; and National Register of Historic Places
As World War I came to an end, Florida tourism and real estate were thriving. The real estate developments quickly attracted buyers, and land in Florida was sold and resold. However, in 1926, Florida's economic bubble burst, when money and credit ran out. Severe hurricanes swept through the state in the 1926 and 1928, further damaging Florida’s economy. By the time the Great Depression began in the rest of the nation in 1929, Floridians had already crashed into economic hardship.

Just as things looked as though they couldn’t get any worse, the Mediterranean fruit fly invaded the state in 1929. The citrus industry was devastated. A quarantine was established, and troops set up roadblocks and checkpoints to search vehicles for any contraband citrus fruit. Florida’s citrus production was cut by about 60 percent.

Sources: Florida Heritage Collection: State University System of Florida

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### Florida boom and bust

#### Dennis (McCarthy) Hotel 1926

**Beaux Arts/Neoclassical**

326 First Ave N, St. Petersburg

**Henry Cunningham, architect**

The Dennis Hotel was built in 1926 by Nick Dennis, a hotelier and restaurateur from New York. The 27,000-square-foot, 8-story, steel-frame masonry-clad Dennis Hotel represents the dramatic transition from small, frame boarding houses and hotels built before World War I to the large masonry hotels built to serve tourists in the boom years of the twenties. The hotel is an important example of Beaux Arts/Neoclassical architecture, featuring a main facade clad in cast stone, brick facing, decorative tile and granite and six two-story Corinthian pilasters.

The Dennis Hotel was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986 and was designated as an historic landmark by the City of St. Petersburg in 1993.

Sources: Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources; National Register of Historic Places; St. Pete Preservation and City of St. Petersburg Historic Preservation

### Hacienda Hotel 1927

**Mission/Mediterranean Revival • 5621 Main St., New Port Richey • Thomas Reed Martin, architect**

The Hacienda Hotel was designed by architect Thomas Reed Martin for brothers James and Thomas Meighan. Thomas Meighan was a popular silent film star who also built a home in New Port Richey. The Richey Suncoast Theatre was originally named the Meighan Theatre in his honor. During the 1920s, the Hacienda Hotel hosted many silent film stars and vaudeville and broadway entertainers drawn by Meighan’s presence. The area also was scouted several times by producers looking for film locations and possible studio sites.

The 2-story hotel has a modified H-shaped plan, 2 hip-roofed towers and a central courtyard, and features numerous Mediterranean Revival characteristics. In 1985, the hotel was purchased by Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services Inc. and operated as an assisted living facility. In 2003, the city of New Port Richey purchased the Hacienda Hotel and leased it to Gulf Coast Family Services until 2006. The building is currently vacant.

The Hacienda Hotel was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1996.

Sources: National Register of Historic Places; Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources and History of Pasco County website

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### Florida Hotel 1927

**Renaissance/Georgian Revival • 905 N Florida Ave, Tampa • Francis J. Kennard, architect**

The 18-story Floridan Hotel was built in 1927 to serve the ever-increasing number of tourists visiting Tampa during the boom years of the early twenties. When it was completed, it was the tallest structure in Tampa. The Floridan’s Renaissance and Georgian Revival design elements are typical of skyscrapers of this era. The building is the only historic skyscraper remaining of approximately six constructed in downtown Tampa between 1910 and 1930.

The Floridan Hotel closed its doors in 1989 after a long decline. It reopened in July 2012 after a long restoration that includes the original sign. The Floridan Hotel was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1996 and designated as a Local Historic Landmark in 1996.

Sources: National Register of Historic Places; Florida Department of State, Division of Historic Resources; and City of Tampa Historic Preservation and Urban Design

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### Florida History Timeline

- 1887-88 – Yellow Fever epidemic devastates Florida.
- 1888 – Industrial-grade phosphate is discovered east of Tampa.
- 1891 – Henry B. Plant opens the Tampa Bay Hotel on the western bank of the Hillsborough River.
- 1898 – Spanish-American War. Tampa serves as the port of embarkation for U.S. troops.
- 1903 – The City of St. Petersburg is incorporated.
- 1907 – The Tampa Northern Railroad connects Brooksville and Port Richey to Tampa.
- 1908 – Streetcar line is built on Central Avenue, connecting downtown Tampa to Sulfur Springs.
- 1912 – Pinellas becomes a county separate from Hillsborough County.
Architecture as a career

The American Institute of Architects defines architecture as “the imaginative blend of art and science in the design of environments for people.” Architects transform people’s need for space, to work, live, play, eat, sleep, learn and travel into concepts and then into designs that can be built.

Architects are licensed professionals with specialized skills. An architect does more than just design buildings; he or she must also protect the health, safety and welfare of the building’s users and the general public.

Imagine that you need to hire an architect. Go to the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) Inc. website and research the skills and education someone would need to become an architect. Write a Help Wanted advertisement. Share your ad with your classmates.

St. Petersburg Federal Savings and Loan 1930s

Art Deco/Art Moderne
556 Central Ave,
St. Petersburg
Philip J. Kennard, architect

The St. Petersburg Federal Savings and Loan Association building was designed by Philip J. Kennard in the Art Deco/Art Moderne style. The building is a 1-story, flat-roof masonry structure that features Art Deco/Art Moderne elements including a geometric design; layered, hard-edged, low-relief designs around doors, windows and roof edges; and a rectangular-shaped geometric design recessed above the door.

The St. Petersburg Federal Savings and Loan building was designated as an historic landmark by the city of St. Petersburg in 1993.

Sources: St. Pete Preservation and city of St. Petersburg Historic Preservation

1910-1914 – First “land boom” occurs in Tampa Bay.
1914 – Tony Jannus pilots the world’s first scheduled airline flight from St. Petersburg to Tampa.
1914 – Bayshore Boulevard in Tampa is widened and paved.

World War I 1914-1918

Roaring Twenties 1920-1929

1920 – The Florida Land Boom begins. It will last through 1926.

1921 – Tampa Bay is devastated by a hurricane that causes widespread flooding.

1924 – The Gandy Bridge opens, reducing the drive from Tampa to St. Petersburg from 43 to 19 miles. On opening day, it is the longest automobile toll bridge in the world.

1924 – D.P. Davis begins development of Davis Islands in the Mediterranean Revival style.
Pre, during and post-World War II

The end of the Florida land boom in 1926 and the Great Depression brought an end to new residential construction and a marked decline in tourism until the implementation of the New Deal signaled an economic upturn and the gradual return of tourists during the late 1930s.

World War II spurred economic development in Florida. The state’s year-round mild climate afforded it the opportunity to become a major training center for soldiers, sailors and aviators of the United States and its allies. Highway and airport construction accelerated so that, by war’s end, Florida had an up-to-date transportation network ready for use by residents and the visitors who seemed to arrive in an endless stream.

St. Petersburg Municipal Utilities Building/City Hall 1939

Mediterranean Revival/Art Moderne
175 Fifth St N,
St. Petersburg
A. Lowther Forrest, architect

The St. Petersburg Municipal Utilities Building, or City Hall, was constructed in 1939 using funding from a Public Works Administration grant, a New Deal program of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The building can be described as Art Moderne with Mediterranean Revival influence. Significant interior features include elaborately decorated ceilings over the main entrance hall, main staircase and second-floor council chambers; ornamental bronze hanging lamps in the front entryway; and walls finished in marble. The building also retains a 7- by 10-ft. mural painted by artist George Snow Hill under a Works Progress Administration commission.

1926 – Florida real estate boom collapses.
1929 – The stock market crash ushers in the Great Depression, which will last until the beginning of World War II in 1939.
1932 – U.S. Highway 19, running from Erie, Pennsylvania, to Tallahassee, is extended to St. Petersburg.
1933 – The Civil Works Administration is established by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The CWA builds bridges, schools, hospitals, airports, parks and playgrounds, and funds the repair and construction of highways and roads.

History in the news

As you have read in this publication, history is more than just facts. It also is about society, people and culture. The buildings in this publication coincide with the time periods’ current events and the people in the news. The news section of the newspaper provides us with a daily record of the problems and issues facing our society. The newspaper presents history in the making. Read the Tampa Bay Times, and identify a local problem or issue that is of major importance in your community. Write an essay summarizing the article and identifying the following points. What do you know about the issue or problem? What additional information do you need? What are some alternative solutions to the problem? What are the positive and negative consequences of each solution? What do you believe would be the best solution? Can your solution be implemented? How would you evaluate the success of your solution? Share what you have learned with your class.

McKeage Residence 1938

Art Moderne
209 Park St S,
St. Petersburg
Edward Staples, architect

The McKeage Residence was designed and built in 1938 by contractor Edward Staples for John and Florence McKeage as their winter residence. The McKeage Residence stands as a representative example of the brief period of residential construction between the slow recovery from the Great Depression and the onset of World War II.

The McKeage Residence is an excellent example of an Art Moderne-style residence and Depression-era residential construction. Most examples of Art Moderne are large apartment buildings, hotels or civic buildings, funded through public works projects under the New Deal agencies. With few residences built during the 1930s, the Art Moderne-style home is relatively rare. The McKeage Residence features Art Moderne elements, including an asymmetrical design, flat roof, curved corners and garden wall, corner windows, a slab front door featuring a porthole and a curved corner window built of glass block. The interior of the residence also contains Art Moderne-elements, including curved walls, stepped room openings and stepped recessed ceilings.

The McKeage Residence was designated as an historic landmark by the city of St. Petersburg in 2009.

Sources: St. Pete Preservation and city of St. Petersburg Historic Preservation

Great Depression 1929-1940

1932 – The Civil Works Administration is established by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The CWA builds bridges, schools, hospitals, airports, parks and playgrounds, and funds the repair and construction of highways and roads.
Royal Theater 1948
Quonset Hut •1011 22nd St S, St. Petersburg
Philip J. Kennard, architect

Built in 1948, the Royal Theater was designed by Philip J. Kennard for the Gulf Coast Entertainment Company. The Royal Theater operated for 18 years, from 1948 to 1966, as one of only two movie theaters serving solely African-Americans in St. Petersburg during the era of segregation.

The Royal Theater is one of the few remaining Quonset huts in St. Petersburg. The Quonset hut is a lightweight, portable and economic building designed by the George A. Fuller construction company and named after the town in Rhode Island where their production facility was located. The design was based on a World War I British prototype called a Nissan hut.

After the war, surplus Quonset huts were sold to civilians, originally intended as housing for returning veterans. However, businesses and designers found that the Quonset could be adapted to many uses, and many architects used the basic arched elements in the design of churches or theaters.

The Royal Theater was designated as an historic landmark by the city of St. Petersburg in 1993.

Sources: St. Pete Preservation and city of St. Petersburg Historic Preservation

Davis Medical Building 1958
Mid-century Modern • 1 Davis Blvd, Tampa • Mark Hampton, architect

Designed by renowned Tampa architect of the Sarasota School of Architecture, Mark Hampton, the Davis Medical Building features reinforced concrete construction, lower units covered in unglazed black tile, vertical utility cores sheathed in blue glass mosaic tile and pre-cast cement sunscreens over the east and west entrances.

The Sarasota School is a regional form of Modernism that flourished in west central Florida during the 1940s through the 1960s. While Sarasota School architects embraced Modern elements such as flat roofs and smooth, minimalist facades, they also incorporated regional architectural features designed to accommodate the Florida climate by maximizing ventilation and shade, such as patios, verandas and raised floors.

Sarasota School buildings are typically built to make the most of views and create a sense of open space. They often incorporated then-innovative materials such as concrete and plywood and used sunshine to create patterns and shadows.

Sources: American Institute of Architects; Sarasota Architectural Foundation

Williams Park Bandshell 1954
Modern • 330 2nd Ave N, St. Petersburg
William B. Harvard Sr., architect

The Williams Park Bandshell, constructed of reinforced concrete, natural redwood and pumice block, was regarded as revolutionary at the time of its construction. In 1955, it won the American Institute of Architects Award of Merit. Thirty years later, it is still considered an important building, winning a coveted AIA Test of Time Award.

The multi level building features a diamond-shaped, terrazzo-tile band platform and braced structural-steel-frame canopy. The canopy originally contained heat-absorbing glass panels reinforced with wire.

Source: Harvard Jolly Architecture

1933 – The University of Tampa moves in to the old Tampa Bay Hotel.
1934 – The Ben T. Davis Causeway (later renamed the Courtney Campbell Causeway) connects Clearwater with Tampa.

1935 – President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signs legislation creating the Works Progress Administration (later renamed the Work Projects Administration.)

The WPA employs more than 8.5 million individuals to improve or create highways, roads, bridges and airports, and thousands of artists to work on various projects.

World War II and the Post-war Boom 1941-1964
Contemporary Florida

Since World War II, Florida’s economy and culture have become more diverse. Traditional industries, such as tourism, cattle, citrus and phosphate, have been joined by growth industries in electronics, plastics, construction, real estate and international banking. Several major U.S. corporations have moved their headquarters to Florida. An interstate highway system exists throughout the state, and Florida is home to major international airports. The university and community college system has expanded rapidly. The U.S. space program calls Cape Canaveral home. The citrus industry continues to prosper, despite occasional winter freezes, and tourism remains vital in the state.

Architectural design

Look for photos of buildings in the Tampa Bay Times. Using the architectural design terms that you researched (see Page 3), determine which design describes the buildings in the photographs. Paste the images on poster board and identify the designs. Share what you have learned with your classmates.

Business in the Sunshine State

During the final quarter of the 19th century, large-scale commercial agriculture and tourism were on the rise in Florida, and those two industries have continued to grow. Using the Tampa Bay Times and the Internet, research businesses in the Tampa Bay area. Create a chart depicting the prominent businesses in the area. Think about how these businesses portray our community. Write a brief essay based on your findings and thoughts. Be sure to use your research to support your ideas.

1940-45 – World War II
1941 – MacDill Army Base (later MacDill Air Force Base) opens to train airmen in the B-17 Flying Fortress and B-26 Marauder aircraft.

1942 – The Army Air Corps leases the Pinellas County airport for a training center. After the war, the Pinellas Army Air Base is returned to the county and later becomes St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport.

1950-1953 – Korean War

During the war, empty hotels such as the Vinoy, Soreno, Princess Martha and Belleview-Biltmore were converted into military barracks. More than 100,000 military personnel passed through St. Petersburg in 1942-43.

Pasadena Community Church 1960

Modern • 227 70th St S, St. Petersburg • Harvard Jolly Architecture, architects

Pasadena Community Church is one of Tampa Bay’s most widely recognized architectural emblems. The structure features glass walls extending to the ceiling, green glass mosaic towers and a dramatic “folded” roof design. The 2,000-seat main sanctuary features a reverse-incline floor and ceiling mirroring the faceted shape of the roof. The roofing material is composed of broken clay tile chips embedded in a manufactured plastic “Thermo-Roof”.

Source: Harvard Jolly Architecture

St. Petersburg Pier 1973

Modern • 800 Second Ave NE, St. Petersburg • William B. Harvard Sr., architect

St. Petersburg’s first pier dates to 1889, when the Railroad Pier was constructed by St. Petersburg co-founder Peter Demens’ Orange Belt Railway. Several piers followed, among them the Electric Pier, constructed in 1906 and featuring dramatic night lighting, and the Million Dollar Pier, a Mediterranean Revival casino-style building built in 1926 featuring a central atrium, open-air rooftop ballroom and observation deck. In 1967, the Million Dollar Pier was demolished to make way for the new Inverted Pyramid, which opened in 1973.

In 2004, it was determined that the condition of the pier’s pilings would necessitate replacement by 2014. Beginning in 2008, the city of St. Petersburg considered redevelopment alternatives with extensive community input. In 2011 a design competition took place, which was judged by a juried panel with final selection by public vote. A design called “The Lens” was the winner. Demolition of the Inverted Pyramid Pier is slated to begin in 2013, with “The Lens” opening in 2015.

Sources: The city of St. Petersburg, The Pier and Harvard Jolly Architecture

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Kiley Garden 1988
Modern • 400 N Ashley Dr, Tampa
Dan Kiley, landscape architect

Kiley Garden was created in 1988 by pioneering modernist landscape architect Dan Kiley. Kiley worked with the architect of the adjacent Rivergate Tower to design the 2.5-acre park using a geometric layout based on a mathematical principal known as the Golden Proportion, which includes a logarithmic pattern known as the Fibonacci Series.

The width of Kiley Garden’s pathways and the checkerboard of grass and concrete all conform mathematically to the Fibonacci mathematical sequence, where beginning with the numbers 0 and 1, each subsequent number is the sum of the previous two.

Kiley Garden also features an outdoor amphitheater overlooking the Hillsborough River and the University of Tampa. Kiley is one of only two landscape architects to have been awarded the National Medal of Arts.

After a period of neglect, Kiley Garden fell into disrepair and was cited as an endangered garden in 2006 by the Cultural Landscape Foundation. The park was partially renovated and restored in 2010.

Sources: the Downtown Partnership; Tampabay.com and the Cultural Landscape Foundation

Glazer Children’s Museum 2010
Modern • 110 W Gasparilla Plaza, Tampa
Gould Evans Associates and Haizlip Studios, architects

The Glazer Children’s Museum, built in 2010, features 3 floors of hands-on interactive exhibit spaces in an environmentally sensitive modern design. The museum was conceived as a simple box as a container of fun, adventure and discovery. The building exterior presents a monolithic appearance, with notable features including a rooftop terrace, colorful aluminum panels and a mirror-and-glass mosaic created by artist Mari Gardner.

The interior features colorful floors, walls, columns and benches that complement an integrated graphic way-finding system. At night, the museum is illuminated both inside and out, presenting a “jewelbox” appearance to the onlooker.

The museum is located in the newly redesigned Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park, which opened in 2010.

Sources: Gould Evans Associates

Immigration issues
Immigration to Florida has been an important part of our history and continues to be an important part of contemporary events. It is also a hot topic for politicians. Look in the Tampa Bay Times for articles about immigration and potential immigration laws. What are some of the current important issues in the newspaper? What are your thoughts about these issues? Check PolitiFact, politifact.com, to see what research has been done about these issues. Write a persuasive essay discussing the article and your thoughts about the information presented.

1954 – The first span of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge opens, linking Pinellas and Manatee counties.
1955 – The University of South Florida begins construction of its Tampa campus on the former practice bombing range of the World War II-era Henderson Air Field.
1959 – The Howard Frankland Bridge links Hillsborough and Pinellas counties.
Civil Rights Era 1964-1969
1959-1975 – Vietnam War
1967 – Race riot in Tampa
Florida Architecture: 100 Years. 100 Places.

AIA Florida’s Florida Architecture: 100 Years. 100 Places commemorates 100 buildings that represent the best that Florida architecture has to offer. The project celebrates AIA Florida’s 100th anniversary and Florida’s history and heritage, and salutes those who had the insight to create better places to live, work and play through architectural design.

In 2011, local chapters of AIA Florida submitted their nominations for best architecture to the AIA Communications Committee for inclusion in the Top 100. The committee then voted on the 253 buildings submitted to narrow the list to 109 buildings that truly represent great Florida architecture. Beginning in January 2012, the public was asked to vote for their favorite buildings, and in April 2012 the results of the survey were released to the public.

Visit aiafltop100.org to see the results.

Tampa Bay–area structures in the Top 100:

**Cuban Club, Ybor City 1917:** Designed by M. Leo Elliott, the neoclassical Cuban Club first opened its doors as a gathering place for members of the Cuban National Club.

**Dali Museum, St. Petersburg 2011:** Designed by HOK Tampa with Yann Weymouth, AIA, the museum’s signature architectural detail is a wave of glass paneling that undulates around the building.

**Florida Southern College, Lakeland 1938:** Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, Florida Southern is the home of the world’s largest single-site collection of Frank Lloyd Wright architecture. The campus itself is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as an historic district. The collection of Wright architecture is called “Child of the Sun.”

**Florida Aquarium, Tampa 1995:** Designed by HOK Architects, the aquarium features exhibits including a large simulated wetlands exhibit and a coral reef community housed in a 500,000 gallon tank.

**Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art, Tarpon Springs 2002:** Designed by Hoffman Architects, the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art stretches out above a pond at St. Petersburg College’s Tarpon Springs campus in a design like the prow of a ship.

**Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI), Tampa 1978:** Designed by Rowe Holmes Associates, the original museum was an exhibit with exposed plumbing and duct work so guests could see how the building worked. The IMAX theater was added in 1995 and was designed by Antoine Predock and Robbins, Bell and Kuehlem Architects.

1970s – Present Day

1971 – A second span of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge opens.

1984 – Amtrak discontinues passenger train service in Pinellas, ending an era of passenger train travel which had begun in 1887.

1987 – The new Sunshine Skyway is completed, replacing the old twin span, part of which was destroyed in an accident seven years earlier. The Skyway is the largest construction project ever undertaken in Florida and the largest cable-stayed, box-girder-type bridge in the United States.

1990-1991 - Persian Gulf War

1993 – Federal Department of Transportation begins a program to relocate historic buildings in Ybor City Historic District that would be destroyed by planned expansion of I-4 and I-275.
Henry B. Plant Museum at the University of Tampa 1891: Designed by John A. Wood, the museum is housed in the former Tampa Bay Hotel on the University of Tampa campus along the Hillsborough River. The building was re-purposed in 1933 as the Tampa Municipal Museum. It became the Henry B. Plant Museum in 1974.

Rivergate Tower, Tampa 1986: Designed by Harry Wolf, FAIA, this tower is often referred to as the Beer Can Building by local residents because of its cylindrical shape. Rivergate Tower is a 454-foot skyscraper with 32 floors. It is the sixth-tallest building in Tampa and one of the tallest limestone buildings in the world.

Tampa Museum of Art 2008: Designed by Stanley Saitowitz, the museum is designed to look like a metal box sitting on a glass pedestal and makes use of aluminum, glass and fiber-optic, color-changing lights in the exterior walls to make the building itself a work of art.

Tampa Bay History Center 2009: Designed by Verner Johnson Inc., the Tampa Bay History Center is located on the two-mile Cotanchobee-Ft. Brooke Riverwalk and features three floors of permanent and temporary exhibition space. Built with regional and renewable materials, the Tampa Bay History Center was the first Hillsborough County-owned building to attain a LEED® Silver certification through the U.S. Green Building Council.

St. Petersburg's Historic Post Office / St. Petersburg Open Air Post Office 1916: Designed by George W. Stewart, the post office was added to the U.S. National Register of Historic Places on April 4, 1975.

Renaissance Vinoy Hotel / Vinoy Park Hotel, St. Petersburg 1925: Designed by Henry L. Taylor, the Vinoy Park Hotel (also known as the Renaissance Vinoy Resort and Golf Club) is an historic Mediterranean Revival-styled hotel in downtown St. Petersburg. On Sept. 11, 1978, it was added to the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.

Tampa International Airport 1971: Designed by Reynolds, Smith & Hills Inc., Tampa International Airport’s Landside/Airside terminal was the first of its type in the world.

Sources: The American Institute of Architects (AIA) and AIA Florida

1993 - The Bayside Bridge opens, providing an alternative north-south arterial route in Pinellas County.
2001 - September 11 attack on the World Trade Center.
2001-2012 - Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan)
2007-09 - Great Recession
2010 - Deepwater Horizon oil spill

Timeline sources: Del Acosta, Tampa's Hyde Park, Arcadia Publications, 2012; city of Tampa; city of St. Petersburg; Hillsborough County; Pinellas County; History of Pasco County website.